

1 1. A method of managing resources, comprising:
2 connecting to the resources;
3 providing executable modules corresponding to the resources, the modules each
4 implementing a common interface and corresponding to a different one of the resources;
5 making calls to the common interface in each of the executable modules to cause the
6 executable modules to return information about the corresponding resources; and
7 storing the information about the corresponding resources in a database.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the resources comprise data storage resources.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the data storage resources reside in a datacenter
2 controlled by a storage service provider.

1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising presenting the information to an
2 administrator of the storage service provider.

1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the information comprises data storage resource
2 attributes.

1 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising enabling the administrator to select, for a
2 given data storage resource, which of the data storage attributes are to be stored in the
3 database.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the executable modules comprise JAVA classes.

1 8. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
2 generating a directory of the executable modules; and
3 placing each of the executable modules in the directory.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the common interface comprises a set of methods.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the methods include a first method that, when called, cause the executable module to identify the class of resources monitored by that executable module, and a second method that, when called, causes the executable module to discover any resources within the identified class that are connected.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the methods further include a third method that, when called, causes the executable module to poll the resources that were discovered by the executable module.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein results of the polling are provided in XML format.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the results of the polling are provided in a format other than XML and the executable module performing the polling converts the results of the polling to XML format.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the methods further comprise a fourth method that, when called, causes the executable module to return a list of services and associated parameters.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the methods further comprise a fifth method that, when called, causes the executable module to execute a requested one of the services on the list of services.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein making calls to the common interface comprises making a call to the fifth method, and wherein making a call to the fifth method comprises specifying values of parameters associated with the requested one of the services received from a customer of the service provider.

17. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
adding a new data storage resource to the datacenter;

3 connecting to the new data storage resource;
4 providing a new one of the executables modules to correspond to the new data storage
5 resource;
6 and
7 placing the new one of the executable modules in the directory.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein making calls to the common interface comprises
2 making calls to a common interface in the new one of the executable modules.

1 19. A computer program product residing on a computer-readable medium for managing
2 resources, the computer program product comprising instructions causing a computer to:

1 connect to the resources;
2 provide executable modules corresponding to the resources, the modules each
3 implementing a common interface and corresponding to a different one of the resources;
4 make calls to the common interface in each of the executable modules to cause the
5 executable modules to return information about the corresponding resources; and
6 store the information about the corresponding resources in a database.

1 20. A system for managing resources comprising:
2 a server configured to execute software for managing resources to which the server is
3 connected; and
4 wherein the software includes resource-specific executable modules each
5 corresponding to a different one of the managed resources and a resource-independent device
6 configured to use the executable modules to monitor changes in configuration and attributes
7 information associated with the corresponding managed devices.
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